TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

For **Magic: The Gathering® Desktop Themes** to work, there are a few things your computer *must* have.

- The processor has to be a 486 or better, with 8 Mb of RAM. Basically, any computer with "486" or "Pentium" in its name should do just fine. The system speed should be at least 66 MHz (megahertz).
- You must have a CD-ROM drive.
- You must have Windows® 95 already installed.
- Since the installation program will copy **Desktop Themes** onto your hard disk, you must have at least 33 Mb of empty storage space on your hard drive. If your hard drive is larger than 512 Mb, see A Note About Space Requirements on page 2. To see how much free space you have, click the *My Computer* icon, and select *Details* from the *View* menu.
- The graphics must be SVGA quality or better, with a minimum screen resolution of 640 x 480 and 256 colors.
- There must be a mouse attached to the computer.

For optimum performance, choose SVGA graphics with an 800 x 600 screen resolution and high color mode.

If you think you have all of these, but still have a problem running the product, please contact MicroProse Customer Support for assistance.

A Note About About Space Requirements

As hard drives get bigger, the amount of space they designate as one cluster gets bigger, too. Due to this scale phenomenon, **Desktop Themes** (and most programs) requires a bit more drive space on large drives. We've summarized the requirements in this table.

If your hard drive size is:	**Desktop Themes** needs:
512 Mb to 1 Gb	35,760 Kb (35 Mg)
more than 1 Gb to 2 Gb	40,032 Kb (39.1 Mg)
more than 2 Gb to 4 Gb	50,368 Kb (49.2 Mg)

You can use either Microsoft's **Plus!**™ utility or the ***Desktop Illusions*** utility which accompanies this product to customize your **Desktop Themes**.

If you have a Diamond Viper graphics card, and you experience problems running Desktop Themes, you need new drivers. Diamond is due to release updated Viper Drivers by December '95.

For more information you can contact Diamond by

Phone: (408) 325-7000
Fax: (408) 325-7100
BBS: (408) 524-9301
CompuServe: 75300,3673

INSTALLING *DESKTOP THEMES*

Before you can use **Magic: The Gathering® Desktop Themes**, you must install it.

- Turn on your computer.
- Open the CD-ROM drive, place the **Magic: The Gathering® Desktop Themes** CD in there, and close the drive.

This is a "plug-and play" product. The only information you need to confirm is where the files are installed — simply click the button to accept the default information. When the folder name pops up after all the files are copied, simply click the button again to confirm. PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE NAME OR LOCATION OF ANY OF **Desktop Themes'** FILES. Once the automated installation and set-up are complete, **Desktop Themes** is ready for use.

WINDOWS 95 THEMES

The Windows 95 desktop offers a new feature to help computer users integrate all the little details of their interface: this concept is the *desktop theme*.

Instead of setting up your screen saver in one place, then choosing the colors of your windows and buttons and text elsewhere, then shuffling off to a third place for some cool noises to alert you when something goes wrong, then browsing through yet another file for icons you like, then — well, you get the picture; it's complicated! Desktop themes allow you to choose (or customize) one color-and-concept-related package.

If you're in a hurry, just choose your theme and go. Everything — wallpaper, colors, screen saver, fonts, icons, sounds, et al — is customized at the click of a button (and a few seconds while the computer switches over to your new look).

You can, of course, subdivide themes and customize only the parts of your interface that you choose to — you don't have to go hog wild. If you want a new look, but decide to keep the same familiar fonts and sounds, you can turn on the color palette and turn off the graphic and audio portions of the theme. You can even mix and match parts of one theme with elements of another. When you get tired of your theme, you can switch to a new one with very little effort. Desktop redecorating is a snap.

MAGIC: THE GATHERING THEMES

Magic: The Gathering® is a fantasy card game in which opponents represent powerful sorcerers attempting to drive each other from the lands of Dominia. In their battles, these sorcerers cast spells, because that is what wizards do best. Spells can be one of five colors: white, blue, black, red or green. **Desktop Themes** includes five different themes, one for each color in **Magic**. Here is a little background on each of the colors.

White is the magic of order and the chivalrous arts of war. Gifted with the powers of healing and protection, white has the best defensive spells of all the colors. However, although white can keep a wizard safe, it has little in its arsenal to deliver a killing blow.

Blue is the magic of air and water, as well as of illusion and artifice. It is the trickiest of all the colors, always keeping opponents guessing. While blue owns the smallest amount of tangible resources, it compensates by cunningly manipulating and twisting others' spells.

Black is the magic of decay and death. Black spells are ruthless — potent but treacherous—and many threaten their caster as well as his or her opponents. Although black excels at dealing damage to creatures and players, its narrow focus keeps it from being able to remove other obstacles.

Red is the magic of chaos and the elements of earth and fire. It is a raw, aggressive force that destroys whatever lies in its path. Red's power is offset, however, by a lack of subtlety; the other colors possess many spells for undermining its obvious strength.

Green is the magic of nature and life. It lulls many with its serene qualities, only to surprise them with the powerful forces at its command. Unable to directly damage opponents with its sorceries, green instead quickly overwhelms them with an army of creatures.

The Parts of a Theme

Desktop Themes includes a utility called ***Desktop Illusions*** that allows you to apply and switch themes. Each theme in ***Desktop Illusions*** consists of a number of discrete parts. Each part is marked with a checkbox, so that you can turn it on or off as you choose.

- First there's a *Screen Saver* that includes fifty images of card art from **Magic: The Gathering**. For you **Magic** aficionados, these images are drawn from the *Unlimited*™, *Arabian Nights*™, *Antiquities*™, *Legends*™, and *The Dark*™ card sets.
- *Sounds* replaces your system sounds with effects appropriate to each color. There are over a dozen sounds for each theme.
- Each theme has special *Mouse Cursors* to replace the standard pointers.
- *Wallpaper* is the background picture on your desktop. All other screens you open rest on top of the wallpaper.
- *Desktop Icons* replaces the *My Computer*, the *Network Neighborhood*, and the *Recycle Bin* icons with art specially designed to complement each theme.
- *Window Colors* likewise redecorates your menu bars, buttons, and screens in appropriate hues.
- And finally *Window Fonts* offers new alphabets for labeling the title bars.

Applying Themes

To bring up the switcher screen, click the *Start* button, point to *Programs*, point to **Magic: The Gathering** and click on **MTG *Desktop Illusions***. To preview a theme, click on one of the five mana symbols and then click *Apply*. ***Desktop Illusions*** remains open in case you'd like to preview further. You can keep clicking symbols and applying them until you've seen all five themes, if you like.

When you find a theme that suits you, click *OK* to keep that theme and close the switcher. If you prefer, you can instead use the Windows 95 standard buttons in the upper right corner to close the switcher window, or to merely minimize it.

Click the *Cancel* button to return to the settings you had before you opened the switcher.

If you tire of the **Magic** themes, you can use the *Revert* button. This returns your entire Windows setup to the way it was before you installed **Desktop Themes**.

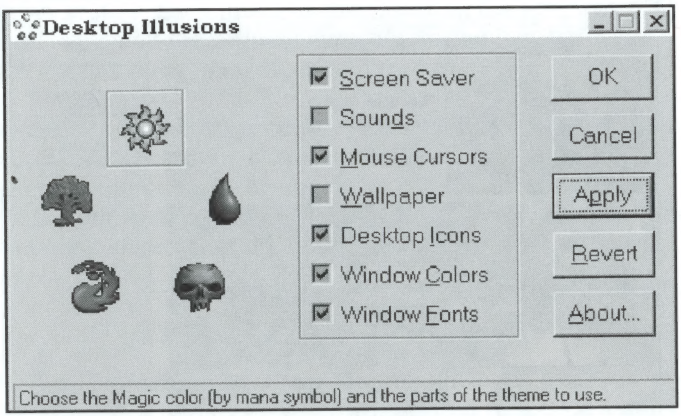
CUSTOMIZING THEMES

Perhaps you like the wallpaper of the red theme, but the palette we created for your menu bars and window backgrounds doesn't strike your fancy. Perhaps you'd rather use your sweetheart's voice for your "Exit Windows 95" sound effect. **Magic: The Gathering® Desktop Themes** is easy to customize to your exact preferences.

Activating Parts of Themes

You don't need to activate all parts of a theme. If you've already developed a color palette that suits you, simply click the checkbox in front of *Window Colors* to remove the check mark. If you're in a large office and don't use system sounds, click the *Sounds* checkbox to remove them, too. By default, ***Desktop Illusions*** starts with all options on, but you can pick and choose which portions you want to retain.

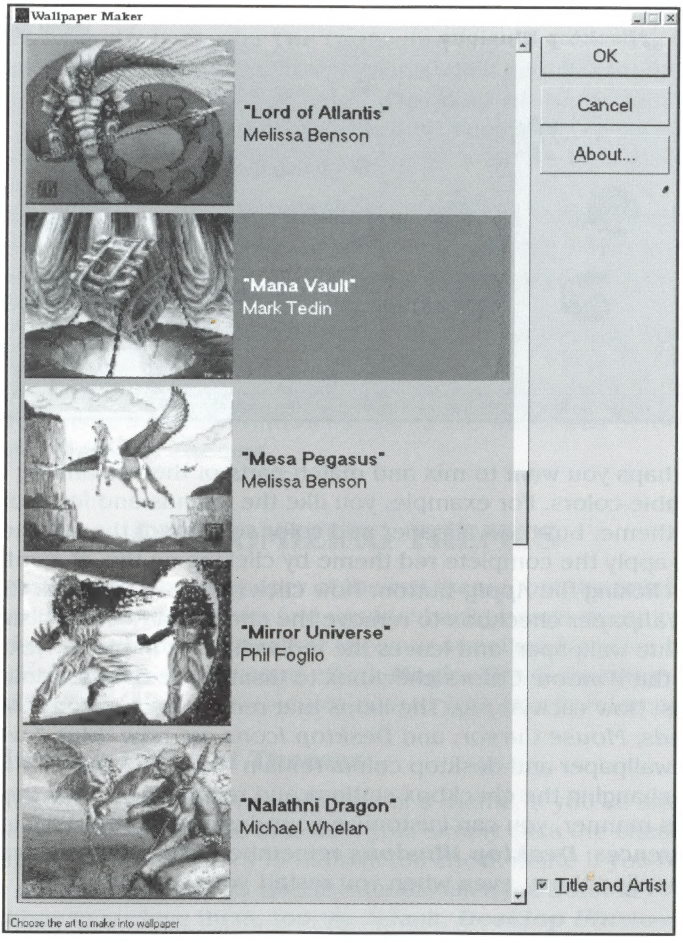
Customizing with Desktop Illusions



Perhaps you want to mix and match parts of themes among the available colors. For example, you like the sounds and fonts of the blue theme, but the wallpaper and color scheme of the red theme. First, apply the complete red theme by clicking on the symbol, then clicking the *Apply* button. Now click on the symbol. Click the *Wallpaper* checkbox to remove the check mark. This "disables" the blue wallpaper, and leaves the red wallpaper in place. Next click the *Window Colors* checkbox to disable the blue window colors. Now click *Apply*. The items that remained checked, like the *Sounds, Mouse Cursor,* and *Desktop Icons* are now "blue," while your wallpaper and desktop colors remain "red".

By changing the checkbox settings and reapplying partial themes in this manner, you can customize your desktop to your exact preferences. ***Desktop Illusions*** remembers the settings as you last applied them, even when you restart your computer.

Using the Wallpaper Maker



You can customize which piece of card art you see as your wallpaper. Any one of the fifty images included in the screen saver can replace the default painting in a theme.

To bring up the ***Wallpaper Maker*** screen, click *Start*, point to *Programs*, point to **Magic: The Gathering** and click on **MTG Wallpaper Maker**. Each image is displayed on the left, while the title of the card and the artist's name appear on the right. As the program creates these images, the bottom bar of the screen records its progress.

Just scroll down the list until you find a picture you like. Click to highlight it, and click the *OK* button. The ***Wallpaper Maker*** replaces the default art with your selection.

The *Title and Artist* check box lets you determine whether or not the identifying ellipse is overlaid on the wallpaper art.

THE SCREEN SAVER

Magic: The Gathering® Desktop Themes includes a screen saver. It works as most screen savers do; whenever it detects a long enough period of inactivity, the program calls up a series of images to cover your screen in a random sequence. This is primarily intended to prevent monitor burn-in. Of course, it also provides you with an art "slide show" that never lapses into predictability.

We've chosen fifty images from the over fifteen hundred existing **Magic** cards. The screen saver displays these images one at a time (it goes through all fifty in about twenty minutes). As each piece of card art appears, the card's title and the illustrator's name are displayed for about five seconds. The words then dissolve, and you have an unobstructed view of the artwork for another fifteen to twenty seconds before it is replaced by the next image.

If you choose, you can go into the *Control Panel* to change the length of inactivity that triggers the screen saver, and also adjust the length of time each image is projected.

CREDITS

Illuminators, Colorists & Glyptographers

Todd Bilger
Frank Frazier

Painters of Sonic Tapestries

Mark Reis
Roland Rizzo

Conjurer

Kim Crouse

Alchemist

Ned Way

Scribes

Jonatha Caspian-Kaufman
John Possidente

Manuscript Illuminator

Cesar Novoa

Grand Vizier

Dave Etheredge

And Special Thanks to the Card Artists

Rob Alexander
Randy Asplund-Faith
Edward Beard, Jr.
Melissa Benson
Liz Danforth
Kaja Foglio
Phil Foglio
Daniel Gelon
Quinton Hoover
Richard Kane Ferguson
Anson Maddocks
Ken Meyer, Jr.
Pat Morrissey
Mark Poole
Christopher Rush
Douglas Shuler
Mark Tedin
NéNé Thomas
Rich Thorns
Drew Tucker
Pete Venters
Tom Wänerstrand
Amy Weber
Michael Whelan

Salaams & Fulsome Felicitations

David Lee
Seth Siegel
Tom Wylie

and, as always
Richard Garfield

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Each player must have a deck to play, and you can choose from more than fifteen hundred collectable cards to craft a **Magic** deck that is uniquely your own. Once ready, you challenge one or more of your friends, and the duel begins.

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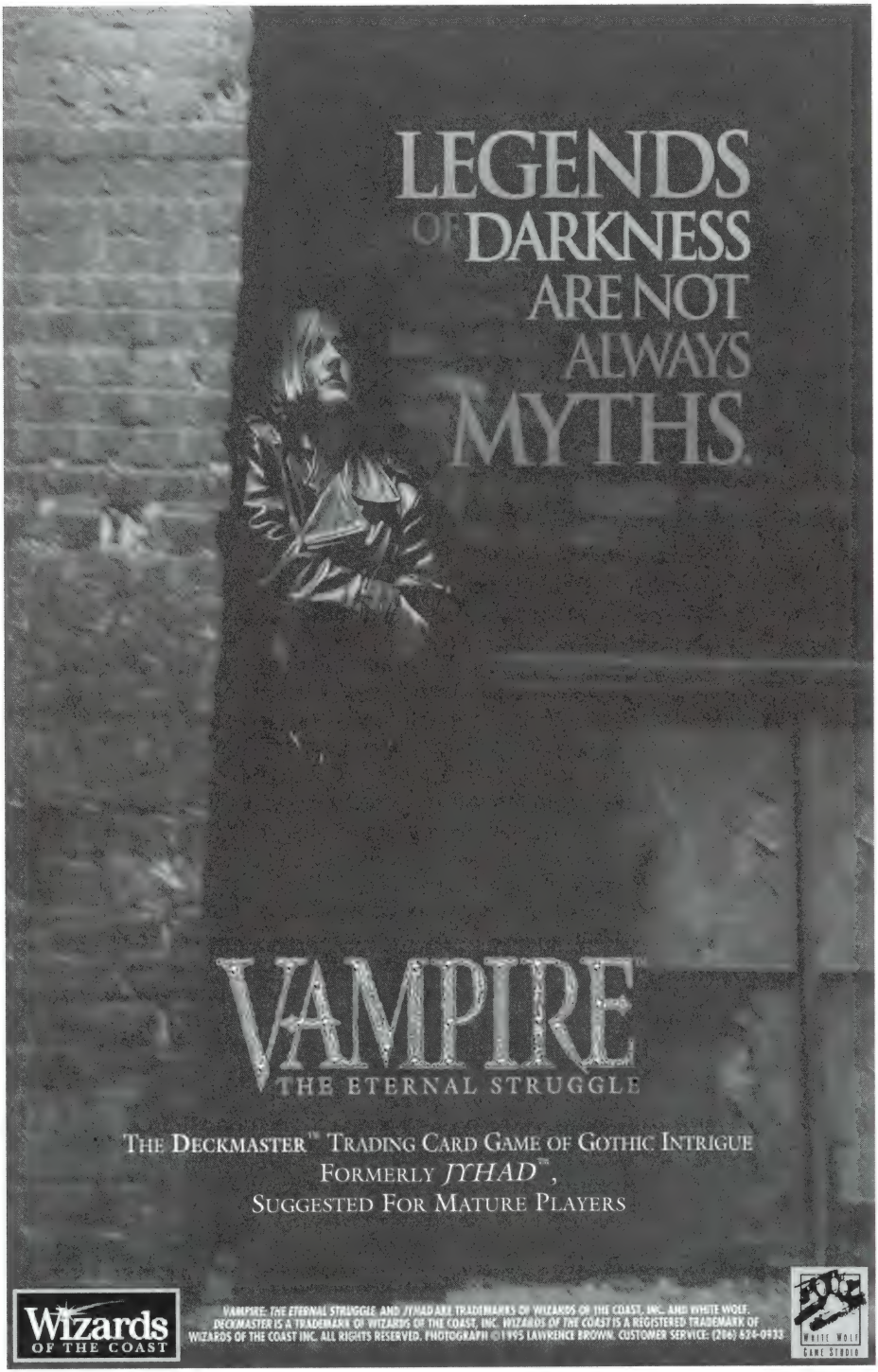
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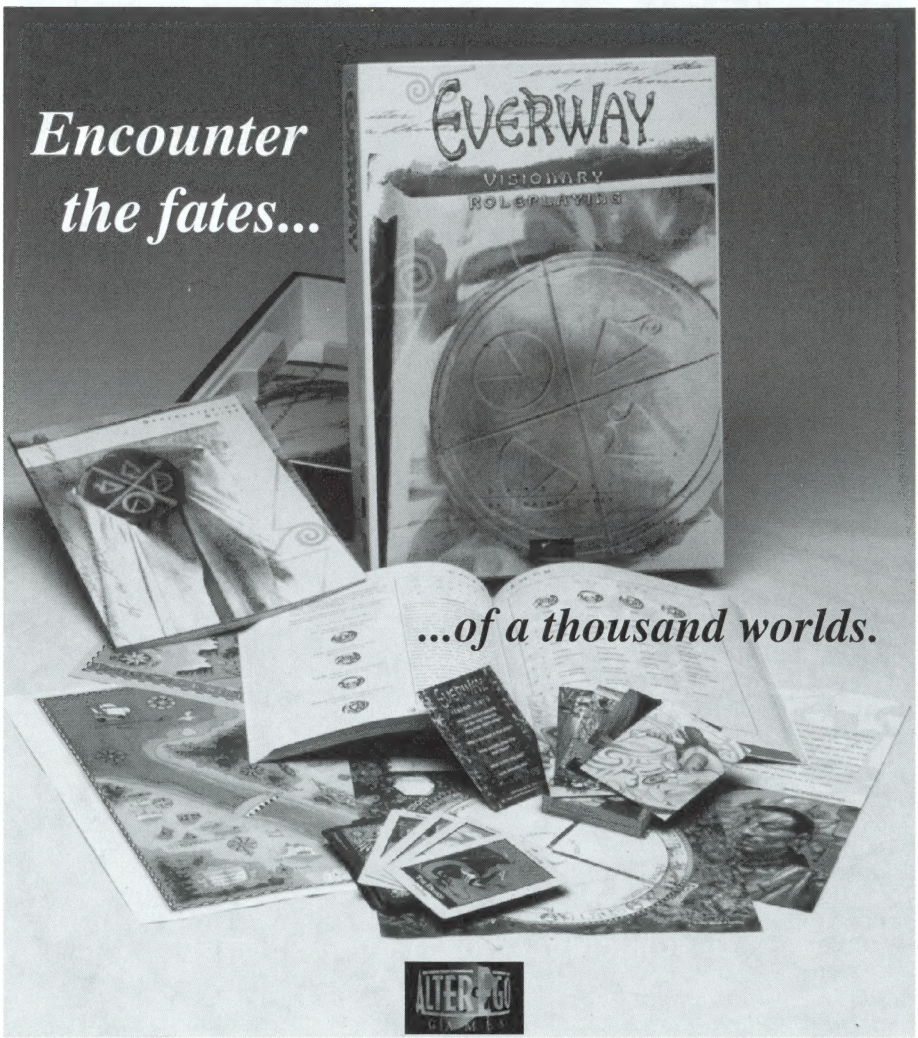

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